

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10  
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NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00  
INRE-00 HA-05 /112 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES  
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES  
EA:LMCNUTT (SUBSTANCE)  
NEA:JMONTVILLE (SUBSTANCE)  
ARA/PPC:NSSMITH (SUBSTANCE)  
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O P 080126Z SEP 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY SUVA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY  
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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
USLO PEKING PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 227574

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UN, PR

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO IN THE UN COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: USUN 3481

1. AT SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF 24, CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE REJECTED ALL OF AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY AUSTRALIA (REFTEL) AT PREVIOUS DAY'S MEETING AND REJECTED CALL FOR CONSENSUS APPROACH ENDORSED BY MANY MEMBERS OF C-24, INCLUDING INDIA, YUGOSLAVIA, IRAN, INDONESIA, IVORY COAST AND TUNISIA. EVEN SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE SUPPORTED CONSENSUS OUTCOME. IN REJECTING AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS, CUBAN REP RELIED HEAVILY ON STATEMENTS OF OPPOSITION PREPARED BY LEADERS OF INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIALIST PARTIES (MARI BRAS AND BERRIOS) AND BY FORMER-GOVERNOR RAFAEL HERNANDEZ-COLON. CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE INSISTED THAT CUBAN/IRAQI TEXT BE BROUGHT TO A VOTE AT COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 8.

2. DEPARTMENT IS VERY CONCERNED THAT CUBAN/IRAQI DRAFT WILL BE ADOPTED BY C-24, ALTHOUGH WITH PERHAPS LESS THAN HALF OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS VOTING FOR IT. ALTHOUGH WE REALIZE THAT ACTION ADDRESSEE POSTS HAVE DONE YEOMAN SERVICE IN

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LAST FEW WEEKS, THIS ISSUE IS OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO US TO JUSTIFY ONE MORE EFFORT WITH HOST GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN SUPPORT FOR AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS AND, IF ISSUE IS PRESSED TO THAT POINT, NEGATIVE VOTE ON CUBAN RESOLUTION. CONSEQUENTLY, YOU SHOULD CONTACT FOREIGN MINISTRY AT HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL AT OPENING OF BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 8 TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- DESPITE EFFORTS OF A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE OF 24 TO DEVELOP CONSENSUS TEXT, CUBA IS PUSHING ITS RESOLUTION TO A VOTE IN THE C-24;

-- THE UNITED STATES FINDS THE CUBAN RESOLUTION HIGHLY OFFENSIVE. ITS APPROVAL BY THE COMMITTEE WOULD REPRESENT A TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE INTRUSION INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE US AND PUERTO RICO, WOULD DAMAGE THE CAUSE OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN PUERTO RICO, AND WOULD CREATE A HIGHLY CONFRONTATIONAL ISSUE IN THE COMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION;

-- SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAVE STRESSED THE DESIRABILITY OF AN AGREEMENT ON A CONSENSUS TEXT, INCLUDING

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIA, IRAN, INDONESIA, IVORY COAST AND TUNISIA. EVEN THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE, SPEAKING AT THE COMMITTEE'S SEPTEMBER 6 MEETING, STRESSED THE DESIRABILITY OF A CONSENSUS OUTCOME. ONLY CUBA'S DESIRE TO USE THE C-24 FOR ITS OWN PURPOSES IS STANDING IN THE WAY OF A CONSENSUS OUTCOME.

-- AT THE SEPTEMBER 7 COMMITTEE MEETING, THE CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE CITED LEADERS OF THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIALIST PARTIES AS WELL AS THE FORMER LEADER OF THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY AS OPPOSING THE AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION. THE CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE FAILED TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THE LEADERS OF THE TWO MAJOR PARTIES IN PUERTO RICO, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 94 OF

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THE VOTE AT THE LAST ELECTION, HAVE BOTH REJECTED THE OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE OF CUBAN RESOLUTION IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

-- FOR THIS REASON, THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY URGES THAT YOU INSTRUCT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION. THE UNITED STATES, AS WE HAVE MADE CLEAR BEFORE, ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS ISSUE. NO COUNTRY CAN PASSIVELY PERMIT ITS GOOD NAME AND NATIONAL POLICIES TO BE SUBJECTED TO THE TYPE OF ABUSE CONTAINED IN THE CUBAN RESOLUTION WITHOUT TAKING OFFENSE. THIS IS A VOTE OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO THE MOST SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THIS

ADMINISTRATION. THE AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE.

3. FOR NEW DELHI: INDIAN UN PERMREP JAIPAL HAS ADVISED USUN THAT HIS CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO ABSTAIN ON ALL ISSUES. HE ASKED THAT AMBASSADOR GOHEEN, IF POSSIBLE, MAKE APPROACH TO MFA (HOPEFULLY TO MINISTER VAJPAYEE) URGING THAT JAIPAL BE GIVEN DISCRETIONARY INSTRUCTIONS ALLOWING HIM TO SUPPORT AS MANY OF THE AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS AS POSSIBLE. IN MAKING APPROACH, EMBASSY SHOULD USE OCCASION TO EXPRESS OUR GREAT APPRECIATION FOR VERY HELPFUL ROLE PLAYED BY AMBASSADOR JAIPAL.

4. FOR FREETOWN: SIERRA LEONE UN MISSION ADVISES THAT TEXT OF AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN SENT TO MINISTRY. (OTHER ACTION ADDRESSEES MAY ALSO FIND THAT THIS IS THE CASE.) IN MAKING ABOVE APPROACH, EMBASSY SHOULD PROVIDE COPY OF TEXT REFTEL WHICH CONTAINS AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS. FYI, SIERRA LEONE'S C-24 REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED US HIS AMBASSADOR WOULD NOT LET HIM

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CABLE AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS. HE URGES US TO TRY TO GET HIS INSTRUCTIONS CHANGED TO PERMIT ACTIVE SUPPORT OF AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS. END FYI.

5. FOR BELGRADE: YUGOSLAV PERMREP INFORMED AMB. LEONARD THAT HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSTAIN ON EVERYTHING. USUN REPORTS THAT HE WAS SOMEWHAT TAKEN ABACK WHEN LEONARD POINTED OUT THAT ABSTENTION ON AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS AMOUNTED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF CUBAN RESOLUTION. USUN BELIEVES THAT THIS ARGUMENT WILL HAVE IMPACT IN BELGRADE. IF WE ARE TO SUCCEED IN THIS EFFORT, YUGOSLAV SUPPORT COULD BE CRUCIAL IN VIEW OF YUGOSLAVIA'S POSITION AS NON-ALIGNED LEADER, AND EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE PARTICULARLY STRONG PITCH FOR FAVORABLE VOTES ON AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENTS.

6. FOR DAMASCUS: WE LEAVE TO YOUR DISCRETION DECISION AS TO WHETHER FURTHER APPROACH ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH OTHER ISSUES. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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